

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HIDETOSHI NISHI ET AL.

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: Concurrently Herewith
August 30, 2001

Examiner:

Title: ROLLING METHOD FOR STRIP ROLLING MILL AND STRIP
ROLLING EQUIPMENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Preliminary Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination and calculation of fees, please
preliminarily amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows: (A marked-up
version of the changes to the specification is attached.)

Page 3, third paragraph after BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE
SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING, as follows:

Figs. 3A-3C are respective diagrams showing a relation
between a roll position and an amount of edge drop.

Page 3, sixth paragraph after BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING, as follows:

Fig. 6 is an upper view of a rolling mill showing a drive mechanism according to the invention for moving rolls in the roll axis directions.

Page 16, fourth paragraph should read as follows:

Figures 3A-3C show an example result of edge drop control in one embodiment of the invention. Symbol E represents an amount of edge drop. In this example, the edge drop amount is a difference between the strip thickness at a position 100 mm from the strip widthwise edge and the strip thickness at a position 10 mm from the strip widthwise edge. That is, the edge drop amount indicates by how much the strip thickness 10 mm from the widthwise edge. Symbol 8w in the figure denotes a work roll position, which in this case is a distance in the roll axis direction between the start point of the tapered portion of the work roll and the widthwise edge of the material on the tapered portion side. That is, the symbol 8w represents the distance in the roll axis direction (strip width direction) between the position D (start point of the tapered portion of the work roll) and the position H (widthwise edge of the material on the tapered portion side)


in Fig. 1 and also the distance in the roll axis direction (strip width direction) between the position G and the position F in Fig. 1.

If there are any questions regarding this preliminary amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381AS/50328).

Respectfully submitted,

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Donald D. Evenson
Registration No. 26,160

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-5116

MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE

Page 3, third paragraph after BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING, as follows:

[Fig. 3 is a diagram] Figs. 3A-3C are respective diagrams showing a relation between a roll position and an amount of edge drop.

Page 3, sixth paragraph after BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING, as follows:

Fig. 6 is [a] an upper view of a rolling mill showing a drive mechanism according to the invention for moving rolls in the roll axis directions.

Page 16, fourth paragraph as follows:

[Fig. 3 shows] Figures 3A-3C show an example result of edge drop control in one embodiment of the invention. Symbol E represents an amount of edge drop. In this example, the edge drop amount is a difference between the strip thickness at a position 100 mm from the strip widthwise edge and the strip thickness at a position 10 mm from the strip widthwise edge.

